



Paramedic Will Wilson, ranger George Webb and firefighter Charles Pinkston are shown left to right in front of Sumter County Fire Services Engine 28.

First responders treated to lunch and tour

Emergency rescue personnel were treated to a "First Responder's Day Luncheon" on Wednesday, June 5, at the historic Dade Park Battlefield site.

The event included lunch for nearly 20 first responders serving in the Sumter County area and a tour of the park, hosted by park ranger/event coordinator George Webb and Dade Battlefield Society President Steve Rinck.

Webb, retired from federal law enforcement, said with everything going on - from the storms in Oklahoma all the way back to 9-11, the first responders aren't

getting the appreciation they should get.

The tour included a walk to the museum and visitor's center, lodge, volunteer village and the brand new Seminole chickee on site. Webb said the luncheon served double duty. By bringing first responders in and giving them a tour, he was able to familiarize them with the park, which should help in case they ever need to respond to an emergency on site.

Foods for the lunch were donated by Winn Dixie, Jennie's Bakery, Sonny's, Hungry Howies and the Lake Panasoffkee Subway.



Paramedic Will Wilson, ranger George Webb, dispatcher Carrera Wineberger and firefighter/EMS Kory Lyons are shown from left to right - the first responders with necessary gear.

Special recognition for service ...



Sumter County emergency rescue personnel were recently treated to a "First Responders Appreciation Luncheon" on June 5 at Dade Battlefield Park in Bushnell. The personnel honored at the luncheon are shown here with event coordinator George Webb (background in pioneer attire). See more photos and story inside on Page 8.